

Allowance

1. Claims 17-18 have been canceled. Claims 1, 7, 14-16, 19-22, and 27-101 withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Applicant timely traversed the restriction (election) requirement in the reply filed on January 16, 2007.

Claims 2-6, 8-13, 23-26 and 102 are pending and under examination.

2. All rejections of record have been withdrawn.

Examiner's Amendment

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with on Morgan Kirley on August 25, 2010.

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4. The application has been amended as follows:.

In the claims:

Claim 1 (canceled).

Claim 2 (previously presented): A method as set forth in claim 6 further comprising:
diluting said re-collected solid phase in an aqueous sporulation medium;
sporulating said viable oocysts while in contact with said sporulation medium;
separating sporulated oocysts from said sporulation medium;
sterilizing said sporulated oocysts; and
diluting said sporulated oocysts to form a vaccine composition.

Claim 3 (previously presented): A method of separating viable oocysts from a liquid suspension by the use of a hydrocyclone.

Claim 4 (previously presented): A method as set forth in claim 3 wherein the viable oocysts are collected in the underflow from the hydrocyclone.

Claim 5 (previously presented): A method for isolating oocysts comprising:
collecting manure from host animals wherein said manure contains viable oocysts known to cause coccidiosis;
diluting said manure in an aqueous medium to create a slurry;
separating unwanted fecal matter from said slurry and collecting the aqueous fraction containing viable oocysts;
subjecting said aqueous fraction to separation by means of a hydrocyclone.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A method for isolating viable oocysts comprising:
collecting manure from host animals wherein said manure contains viable oocysts known to cause coccidiosis;
diluting said manure in an aqueous medium to create a slurry;
separating unwanted fecal matter from said slurry and collecting the aqueous fraction containing viable oocysts;

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subjecting said aqueous fraction to separation by ~~means selected from the group consisting of a centrifuge and~~ a hydrocyclone, and collecting the solid phase;

combining a dense aqueous liquid with said collected solid phase wherein said dense liquid has a density greater than about 1.09 g/ml and wherein the viable oocysts are buoyant;

subjecting the combination of said dense aqueous liquid and collected solid phase to centrifugation and collecting the dense liquid fraction containing viable oocysts;

diluting said dense liquid fraction to a specific gravity wherein the viable oocysts are no longer buoyant;

separating viable oocyst solids from said liquid fraction by means of a hydrocyclone and re-collecting the solid phase.

Claim 7 (canceled).

Claim 8 (previously presented): A method as set forth in claim 6 wherein said animals comprise the class Aves.

Claim 9 (previously presented): A method as set forth in claim 8 wherein said slurry is created by mixing about 0.5 gallons to about 5 gallons of domestic water per the amount of manure obtained in about 3 days from about six animals comprising the class Aves.

Claim 10 (original): A method as set forth in claim 9 wherein said animals are chickens.

Claim 11 (previously presented): A method as set forth in claim 6 wherein said separation of unwanted fecal matter comprises sieving.

Claim 12 (original): A method as set forth in claim 11 wherein said sieving is by use of multiple-tier shaker screens.

Claim 13 (original): A method as set forth in claim 12 wherein said shaker screens comprise a 50-mesh screen and a 250-mesh screen.

Claims 14-22 (cancelled).

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Claim 23 (previously presented): A method as set forth in claim 6 wherein said dense aqueous liquid comprises a solution of corn syrup or sodium chloride.

Claim 24 (previously presented): A method as set forth in claim 6 wherein said dense aqueous liquid has a density from about 1.09 g/ml to about 1.20 g/ml.

Claim 25 (previously presented): A method as set forth in claim 24 wherein said dense aqueous liquid has a density from about 1.09 g/ml to about 1.14 g/ml.

Claim 26 (previously presented): A method as set forth in claim 25 wherein said dense aqueous liquid has a density from about 1.09 g/ml to about 1.10 g/ml.

Claims 27-101 (canceled).

Claim 102 (previously presented): The method of claim 6 wherein the dense aqueous liquid is selected from the group consisting of sucrose and fructose corn syrup.

Examiner's Reasons for Allowance

5. The prior art neither teaches or discloses a method for isolating viable oocysts comprising diluting manure, separating unwanted fecal matter, collecting the aqueous fraction containing viable oocysts and separating by a hydrocyclone the aqueous fraction collecting the solid phase.

Status of Claims

6. Claims 2-6, 8-13, 23-26 and 102 have been allowed.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to VANESSA L. FORD whose telephone number is (571)272-0857. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 am- 6 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Larry Helms can be reached on 571.272.0832. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Vanessa L. Ford/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1645
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